

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

US MISSION BERLIN 1412

USDEL CSCE

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PL, UR

SUBJECT: GROMYK'S VISIT EMPHASIZES FOREIGN POLICY
COORDINATION

REF: WARSAW 5857

1. SUMMARY: SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKOS VISIT TO
WARSAW, SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 1, INCLUDED A NUMBER OF
CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES NORMALLY ASSOCIATED WITH A
HIGHER LEVEL OFFICIAL VISIT, WHICH TENDED TO OVERSHADOW
IN MEDIA COVERAGE THE REAL SUBSTANCE OF THE VISIT. NEVER-
THELESS, THERE WAS PLENTY OF THE LATTER AND IT CONSISTED
OF A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON CLOSE COORDINATION OF FOREIGN
POLICIES AND THE REITERATION OF THE USUAL THEMES OF
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FRATERNAL COOPERATION. MOST POLES VIEW THE VISIT AS AN

OBVIOUS DESIRE ON THE PART OF THE SOVIETS TO CONSULT COLSELY WITH GIEREK BEFORE HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON. END SUMMARY.

2. THE COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED BY TRYBUNA LUDU ON OCTOBER 2 NOTES THAT THE "COMMON EFFORTS" OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY HAVE BROUGHT "NEW, EVIDENT RESULTS" IN IMPROVING THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND IN "AFFIRMATION" OF THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE OF COUNTRIES OF DIFFERING SOCIAL SYSTEMS. ALTHOUGH IT CALLS FOR CSCE COMPLETION "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL," THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO CONTAINS A CRYPTIC APPEAL FOR "UNDERTAKING DECISIONS WHICH WOULD COMPRISE A "NEW IMPORTANT STAGE" IN IMPLEMENTING COLLECTIVE SECURITY IN EUROPE. THOUGH IT MENTIONS MBFR IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING, IT IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR WHETHER THE "DECISIONS" INVOLVED WOULD RELATE TO CSCE, MBFR, OR BOTH. THE COMMUNIQUE CALLS FOR A "REPRESENTATIVE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE" WITHIN THE UN FRAMEWORK TO RESOLVE THE CYPRUS QUESTION, AND IT APPEALS FOR EARLIEST RENEWAL OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST. AFTER TOUCHING ON OTHER FAMILIAR ISSUES, SUCH AS DISARMAMENT, THE COMMUNIQUE LAUDS THE "EXISTING PRACTICE OF CONSULTATION" BETWEEN THE RESPECTIVE MFA'S AND PROMISES ITS CONTINUATION.

3. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST WERE PORTIONS OF REMARKS EXCHANGED BY THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS AT AN MFA LUNCHEON ON SEPTEMBER 30, PUBLISHED IN TRYBUNA LUDU OCTOBER 2. OLSZOWSKI, PRASING THE FOREIGN POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, OBSERVED THAT THE CAPITALISTS "HAVE BEEN FORCED TO ACCEPT" THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AS THE "ONLY ALTERNATIVE PLATFORM" OF MUTAL RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. HE WENT ON TO STRESS THE "DECIDING ROLE" OF THE US-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP IN SHAPING THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS AMONG STATES OF DIFFERING SYSTEMS, WHICH HE TERMED THE "MAIN AXIX" OF CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL POLITICS.

4. GROMYKO VOICED "PROFOUND RESPECT" FOR THE "PERSONAL EFFORTS" OF GIEREK IN GOREIGN POLICY--"CONDUCTED WITH HIS CHARACTERISTIC LOGIC AND STRENGTH--IN DEFENSE.... OF THE INTERESTS OF POLAND AND OF SOCIALISM AS A WHOLE". GROMYKO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALSO ADVANCED AN ALMOST DEFENSIVE FORMULATION ON BREZHNEV, SAYING THAT WHEN THE SOVIET LEADER SITS AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE WITH THE CAPITALISTS, "WE" KNOW THAT "EVERYTHING WILL BE DONE FOR THE DEFENSE OF OUR COMMON INTERESTS, THE INTERESTS OF SOCIALISM, AND OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE."

5. SOVIET MINISTER-COUNSELOR RUGULIN TOLD THE CHARGE AT A RECEPTION OCT 1 THAT, ALTHOUGH GROMYKO HAD BRIEFED GIEREK

ON HIS TALKS IN BONN AND AT THE UNGA, HE HAD NOT DISCUSSED WITH GIEREK HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT FORD IN WASHINGTON BECAUSE "THERE ARE NO PROBLEMS IN US-POLISH RELATIONS". ROGULIN REXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT GIEREK'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.

6. COMMENT: DESPITE ROGULINS EFFUSIVE DISCLAIMER, POLISH SOURCES ARE SUGGESTING THAT GROMYKOS MAIN PURPOSE IN COMING TO POLAND AT THIS TIME WAS TO BRING GIEREK UP TO DATE ON ALL MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AND TO GIVE HIM THE BENEFIT OF GROMYKO'S RECENT PERSONAL EXPOSURE TO PRESIDENT FORD. IN THIS CONNECTION WE NOTE THE PERSISTENT THEME IN MEDIA COVERAGE OF GROMYKOS VISIT OF A STRONG EMPHASIS ON THE FULL COORDINATION OF FOREIGN POLICY WITHIN THE SOCIALIST CAMP. GROMYKO'S WARM PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF CONFIDENCE IN GIEREK'S FOREIGN POLICY STRIKES US AS AN ATTEMPT BY THE SOVIETS AND THE POLES TO MEET AN ANTICIPATED PUBLIC VIEW OF THE VISIT AS BASICALLY ONE OF GROMYKO BRIEFING GIEREK FOR HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. IN FACT, MOST POLES SEEM TO TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD WANT TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH GIEREK BEFORE HIS TRIP, BUT THIS DOES NOT REMOVE THE GLITTER FROM THE U.S. VISIT WHICH IS GENERALLY VIEWED HERE WITH GREAT FAVOR.
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